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DISCUSSES RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN YUGOSLAV AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURE TO BE DIVIDED INTO FOUR AREAS OF ACTIVITY -- Ljubljana, Ljudska Pravica, 14 Feb 51

At a recent meeting of agriculture experts in Belgrade, it was decided that additional steps should be taken to improve agriculture. Low agricultural production was mainly attributed to the private sector. According to last year's data, 25 percent of Yugoslav farms had less than 2 hectares of land, 60 percent less than 5 hectares, 78 percent less than 10 hectares, and 7.8 percent more than 10 hectares. The experts found that small farms hinder the mechanization of agriculture.

These experts agreed that agriculture should be divided into four basic areas of activity: the lowland or grain-producing area (The Penonian Plain is the most significant section in this area); the hilly area (a large part of the Sumadija and similar regions); the mountain area; and the Mediterranean-Karst area (a large part of Macedonia and the Dalmatian and Montenegrin Primorje).

The experts also agreed that Yugoslav socialist farms cannot be copies of Soviet kolkhozes and sovkhozes as far as socialist forms and economic foundations are concerned. Several new and significant organizational forms, which are basically different from Soviet organizational forms, have emerged during the current development of the socialist sector. This applies not only to ownership and to the administration of basic means of production (e.g. cooperatives were given agricultural machines), but also to the relationship between the state and large socialist farms (e.g. the establishment of economic unions of farm work cooperatives).

This year the Federal Agricultural Economy and Forestry Institute will study the economic and organizational problems of 70 farm work cooperatives and 30 state farms throughout Yugoslavia.

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The Institute will also publish an economic geography of Yugoslav agriculture this year. This will be the first publication of its kind in Yugoslavia.

At present, the private sector includes 30 percent of all the farms in Yugoslavia and almost three fourths of the total arable land.

DISCUSSES IRREGULAR ISSUE OF MEAT -- Belgrade, Politika, 21 Feb 51

During the past 2 months, the supply of meat to consumers for purchase with consumers' cards has been irregular and inadequate in most cities in Yugoslavia.

Farmers are reluctant to sell their livestock in the first 3 months of the year. The meat-purchasing program does not force them to do so, for the same livestock can be 40 percent heavier in the spring. Consequently, in the fall of 1950, the Council for Commerce of the Federal Government of Yugoslavia issued a new order which was to prevent the usual scarcity of meat during these 3 months. The order called for the Republic Ministries of Commerce and Supply to work out, before the end of 1950, a planned meat-purchasing program for the srez and a compulsory meat delivery schedule to make it possible to prepare the meat purchased and delivered for winter storage.

However, the experiences of recent years were repeated. The Serbian Ministry of Commerce and Supply completed the proposed plan for the purchase and delivery of meat only a few days ago; therefore, not even the meat-purchasing enterprises were able to carry out their work. Slovenia was the only republic where the meat-purchasing program was completed for January; there the plan was fulfilled 101.2 percent.

Generally, meat storage plants were not made ready, although the Federal Council for Commerce was granted credit by the Ministry of Finance for undertakings of this kind. In Serbia, only 2,000 tons of meat were processed or smoked, in Croatia about 200 tons, and in Sovenia about 300 tons.

Only the Ministries of Commerce and Supply of Macedonia, Montenegro, and Bosnia and Hercegovina, prepared meat storage plants for last year's meat reserves. Macedonia today has 909 tons or land months supply of dried mutton; Bosnia and Hercegovina has 4,000 tons of meat stored, and Montenegro will be able to issue frozen meat regularly to consumers for 3 months.

The meat reserve situation is more serious in Serbia, Croatia, and to some extent, in Slovenia. It is too late now to prepare stockpiles of meat. Until the arrival of spring lambs, the situation can be improved only if the srez and local people's councils immediately hand over meat due the consumer for the first quarter of the year, and if the meat purchasing enterprises do their work quickly and efficiently.

TO GET 130,080 TONS OF VEGETABLES IN 1951 -- Belgrade, Borba, 20 Feb 51

According to the 1951 vegetable plan for Belgrade, the city is scheduled to receive 42,000 tons of polatoes, 23,500 tons of cabbage, 10,423 tons of onions, 3,760 tons of peas, 7,990 tons of peppers, 18,800 tons of tomatoes, 940 tons of spinach, and 24,667 tons of other vegetables this year. This amounts to a total of 132,080 tons of vegetables.

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One hectare of nonirrigated land owned by a private farmer in Belgrade Srez yields an average of 12,000 kilograms of vegetables per year. To produce 132,080 tons of vegetables, 11,390 hectares would have to be cultivated by 22,780 workers without agricultural machines.

The Pancevacki Rit farm will produce 17,820 tons of vegetables this year. According to the plan, it will bring to the Belgrade market 3,700 tons of potatoes (8.8 percent of the amount needed), 600 tons of onions (5 percent), 500 tons of peas (13 percent), 830 tons of peppers (10 percent), 2,190 tons of tomatoes (11 percent) and 420 tons of spinach (44 percent).

50,000 CITRUS SEEDLINGS TO BE PLANTED -- Zagreb, Vjesnik, 20 Feb 51

This year, 50,000 orange, lemon, and tangerine seedlings will be planted on the Montenegrin coast. Ground is already being prepared in Bar, Kotor, and Hercegnovi srez, where desirable conditions exist for cultivating subtropical plants. Places for planting are being chosen and irrigation canals are being dug. Planting will be by the plantation system, which has shown itself to be the most suitable. Some olives, figs, and tropical fruits will also be planted this year. Along with the preparations for planting subtropical plants, enclosures of cypress and laurel are being built to protect the plants from the wind.

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